

IN THIS
SILENCE,
LECT
THOUGHT
ABOUT RIEDE'S
SUDDEN
QUESTION.



IT WAS
COMPLETELY
SILENT INSIDE
THE CAR
AS THEY
RETURNED
TO PARATEON.



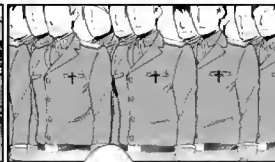
白の皇國物語 第三十九回
原作：白沢茂夫 漫画：不二まーゆ

YOU LAID
YOUR
LIVES
DOWN TO
PROTECT.

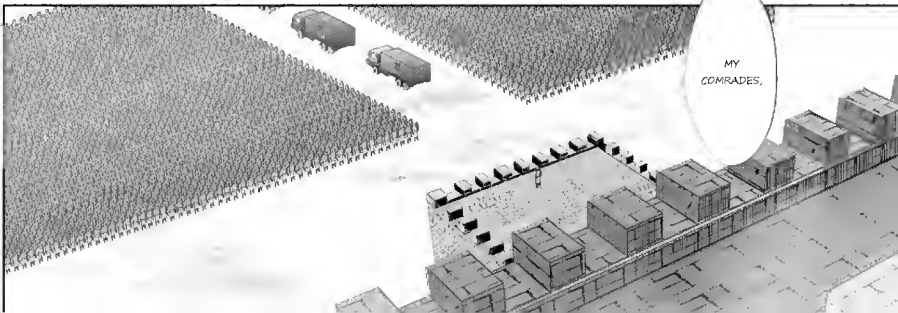
WE HERE
HAVE
INHERITED
THAT
WHICH

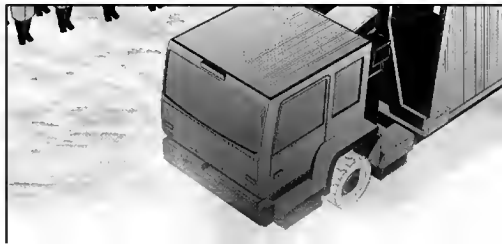


ON THE
MORNING
AFTER LECT
AND RIEDE
RETURNED
A FUNERAL
CEREMONY
WAS HELD.



MY
COMRADES,







THAT IS
BEING
REFLECTED
IN MY
SWORD
NOW.

YOU
PROTECTED
EVERYTHING

YOUR
VICTORY WILL
SHINE IN THE
HEAVENS FOR
SO LONG AS
OUR KINGDOM
REMAINS.

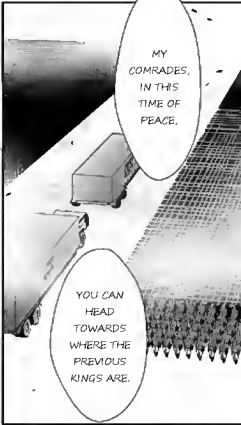
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AND
WE WILL
CONTINUE
TO

DEFEND THAT
WHICH LIES
BEHIND YOU!



MY
COMRADES,
IN THIS
TIME OF
PEACE,

YOU CAN
HEAD
TOWARDS
WHERE THE
PREVIOUS
KINGS ARE.

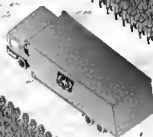


EVERY-
ONE!



THE VEHICLES
CARRYING THE
NOW SILENT
COMRADES
MOVED
FORWARD,
AS IF PUSHED
BY THE
FUNERAL
MARCH.

HII



THE SOLDIERS
SHED TEARS AS
THEY SAW OFF
THE SPIRITS OF
THEIR FRIENDS.





I NEED
TO GIVE RIEDE
MY ANSWER BY
TONIGHT...



IT
DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
ANYTHING
HAS
CHANGED
FOR
HER...



THAT'S
RATHER SEVERE,
BUT I SUPPOSE
THIS IS ANOTHER
OBSTACLE FOR ME
TO OVERCOME.



NOW THEN,
HOW SHOULD
I RESPOND...



YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY,

IT IS
CUSTOMARY TO
LET EVERYONE
DRINK AS THEY
PLEASE ON THE
NIGHT OF A
FUNERAL,

SO THERE
WILL BE
ALCOHOL
PREPARED
FOR RIEDE AS
WELL...

THANK
YOU FOR
ATTEND-
ING THE
FUNERAL.

アハハ



OKAY...

OH...







REPORTED THAT
DISRESPECTFUL
OUTBURST AND
HAD ME JUDGED
FOR IT,

YOU
COULD
HAVE
SIMPLY

I UNDERSTAND
HOW I TROUBLED
YOU.



YET...



YOU ARE
THE REGENT
AND THE MAN
WHO WILL
BECOME THE
KING...





AFTER
TOMORROW IT
WILL LIKELY BE
IMPOSSIBLE TO
SPEAK TO YOU
LIKE THIS.

I DECIDED
THAT NOW
WAS THE
BEST TIME
TO SAY ALL
THAT...

BASED
ON THAT,



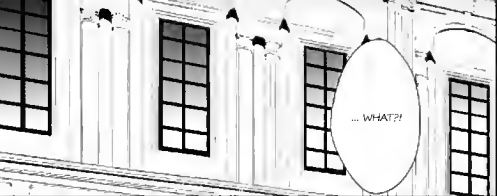
YOUR
HIGH-
NESS...



MY
HATRED
FOR THIS
MUDDLED
COUNTRY,
AND HOW
I FEEL
ABOUT MY
FATHER...









IF YOU
CANNOT
ABANDON A
SOLDIER,
HOW WILL
YOU PROTECT
THE ENTIRE
COUNTRY?!

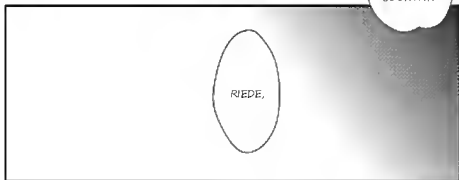
AS A HERO-
NO,
A REGENT IS
NO DIFFERENT.



YOU SHOULD
PICK THE
COUNTRY!



I AM
PREPARED
TO LAY
DOWN MY
LIFE IF IT'S
FOR THE
COUNTRY!



RIEDE,



JUST SWEAR
TO DECIDE
ON IT WHEN
IT ACTUALLY
COMES TO
THAT?



CAN I



OF
COURSE!
THAT'S
WHAT
YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO DO!

BUT...

BY MAKING
EXCUSES IN
MY MIND LIKE
THERE BEING NO
ALTERNATIVES OR
IT JUST COMING
DOWN TO DUTY.

I DON'T WANT
TO MAKE LIGHT
OF THE FEELINGS
AND DREAMS
EVERYONE HAS
IN THEIR FINAL
MOMENTS

PROBABLY
THOUGHT OF
THEIR LOVED
ONES

BOTH YOUR
FATHER AND
THE COMRADES
YOU SAW OFF
TODAY

I MAY BE
THE REGENT,
BUT I AM AN
ORDINARY
MAN BEFORE
THAT.

AS THE
MADNESS
OF DEATH
CLOSED IN
ON THEM.

SO



I WANT TO
BEAR THAT SIN
WHEN THE
TIME COMES
FOR IT.



IF IT HELPS
YOU COPE,

RESENT
ME AS
MUCH AS
YOU WISH.



IT'S MY
DUTY TO
BEAR IT.



SO RESENT
ME,



THAT
WAS GOOD
ENOUGH...
YOUR
HIGHNESS...



NO...

WILL YOU REALLY
ACCEPT MY DEATH
WHEN THE TIME
COMES AND NOT
RUN AWAY?



RIEDE...

IF YOU
DIED...



BUT IF I
DIED,
WOULD
YOU BE
SADDENED
BY IT?



... THIS
IS JUST A
HYPO-
THEtical
QUESTION.



I'D THINK
BACK TO
THIS NIGHT
AND CRY.



I WOULD
CRY AS I
THOUGHT
ABOUT HOW
WARM YOU
FELT NOW.



IN
THE END,
I'M JUST
ANOTHER
SOLDIER...

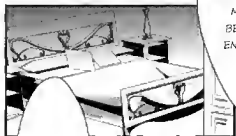


AFTER
YOU LEAVE
TOMORROW,
WE'LL PROBABLY
NEVER MEET
AGAIN.





ANYTHING
CAN HAPPEN
IN THE FUTURE.
A COINCIDENCE
MAY JUST
BE A FATED
ENCOUNTER.



AT THE
VERY
LEAST,



YOU
NEVER
KNOW.



SO
THEN

IF I WAS
ABLE TO.

I WOULD
LIKE TO
GRANT
YOUR WISH



